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MAY 23 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Directorate of Intelligence
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: APOIN - 1A1

SUBJECT: Contract for Regional Photo-Interpretation Keys

1. Colonel Satchal and Mr. Rosece of the Reconnaissance Branch, APOIN, in a recent conversation informed representatives of this Office that developmental research for improvement of regional photo-interpretation keys for the Soviet Union and neighboring areas may be obtained by the Air Force through contractual arrangements with an appropriate organization.

2. This Agency is increasing its use of photo-interpretation and analysis to meet current requirements and has a direct interest in the development of improved techniques and keys for this purpose. Therefore, this Office would be interested in undertaking, on a contractual basis, the research required for developing the suggested photo-interpretation keys in accordance with the specifications in copies of three proposed projects made available to this Office by the Reconnaissance Branch for preliminary examination.

3. Within the Agency there are many highly specialized analysts with particular competence on areas within the Soviet Orbit and with intelligence information and other source materials at hand that are not readily available to organizations outside the intelligence community. These analysts would be available for consultation by the photo-interpreters if the Agency were to undertake the suggested research. Early next month two expert photo-analysts will be available in the Agency for assignment to these projects and further necessary recruitment could be initiated on a priority basis.

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4. In the event that your Directorate decides to contract for this research, it is suggested that negotiations with this Office be initiated at an early date in view of the Agency's demonstrated interest and resources.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

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ROBERT AMERY, JR.
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

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23 May 1952

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